



Left, Staff Sgt. Carla Bailey, 81st Training Support Squadron, helps Alex Grant communicate during a video teleconference during Saturday's Operation Hero program. The 3-year-old is the daughter of Senior Airman Jeremiah and Donna Grant, 81st Medical Support Squadron.



Right, Kelsey Negaard, 11, tries on a helmet. Her mom is Capt. Kathryn Negaard, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron.

Operation Hero

Program offers deployment experience for kids



Tech. Sgt. Joan Anderson-Brown, a student at the Keesler NCO Academy from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., photographs 10-year-old Victoria Plott for her identification badge. Victoria's parents are Capt. Eric and Khaki Plott, 81st Medical Operations Squadron.



Jakob Welch, 5, gets a lift from Airman Larry Martinez, 81st MDSS, as he climbs down from an Air National Guard truck on display during Saturday's Operation Hero program. Jakob's parents are Staff Sgt. Anthony and Camille Welch, Keesler Marine Corps Detachment.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Two-year-old Savanah Cabaniss yawns as Airman 1st Class Roberto Salinas, 81st MDSS, paints a flower on her cheek. Savanah's parents are 1st Lt. William and Stephanie Cabaniss, 81st MDOS.